

during the Session, and I will therefore reserve any remarks I have to make upon them until another opportunity arises.

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B.C.)—I am very much surprised at the remarks of my hon. friend respecting the trade of British Columbia. I have just come from there, and it is news for me to hear anything of this kind. I have taken occasion to inquire into the condition of trade in my Province, and I have heard nothing of the depression in business or suffering or want amongst the laboring classes. On the contrary, trade is in a very fair condition. Indeed there is more building going on in the towns of that Province than usual; saw mills are running day and night to cut lumber to supply the demand of the building trade, and my observation leads me to the conclusion that on the whole, there is more prosperity in British Columbia to-day than we have had for years.

HON. MR. MCINNES (B.C.)—I wish to say that my principal informant was an hon. member, as truthful and respectable a man as comes from British Columbia in the Commons, a strong supporter of the Government, and that is Mr. Gordon, of Nanaimo.

HON. MR. ALMON—Does not the hon. gentleman from New Westminster live in British Columbia himself?

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B.C.)—Everyone knows that for the last three or four years large sums of money have been expended in British Columbia in the construction of the railway, and it is but natural to suppose that we should have some men thrown out of employment after the work was finished, but there is no want amongst the laboring classes and no depression in trade? With regard to the coal mines of Nanaimo, that industry does not depend at all on the commerce of British Columbia, but on a foreign market; and as there has been a glut in the coal markets of California for some time past, and that is where the Nanaimo coal goes to, it is but natural that that trade should be somewhat depressed. As regards the Chinaman, there are always a number of idle

Chinese, and some of them are in want, but when the Municipality of Westminster undertook in a very handsome way to help these men, the Chinese merchants of Victoria came forward in a still more handsome way and said "we will take no help from the white men; we will feed our own poor;" and they taxed themselves so much per month to raise a fund to feed their indigent fellow countrymen.

HON. MR. MCINNES (B.C.)—Who induced them to do so?

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B.C.)—Their own sense of honor.

HON. MR. MCINNES (B.C.)—It was the new Mayor of Victoria.

HON. MR. MACDONALD (B.C.)—With regard to the Canadian Pacific Railway, I congratulate the House and the country on the completion of this great work, and I think that any man who cannot do that after considering all the circumstances must be blind. The man who cannot see the benefits it has secured to this country cannot see anything. The work might have been proceeded with more slowly, but the road is now built; it is a gigantic work, a lasting monument to the industry and enterprise of this country.

The motion was agreed to.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL moved  
"That the said Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General by such members of this House as are members of the Privy Council."

The motion was agreed to.

#### BILLS INTRODUCED.

Bill (C) "An Act further to amend the Interpretation Act."—(Sir Alex. Campbell.)

Bill (D) "An Act further to amend the Post Office Act, 1875."—(Sir Alex. Campbell.)

#### THE STANDING COMMITTEES.

HON. SIR ALEX. CAMPBELL laid upon the table of the House a list of the Standing Committees of the Session.

The Senate adjourned at 5:20 p.m.